

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A metal halide lamp comprising a discharge vessel surrounded by an outer envelope with clearance and having a ceramic wall which encloses a discharge space filled with a filling consisting of comprising an inert gas, such as gas including xenon (Xe), and an ionizable salt, wherein in said discharge space two electrodes are arranged whose tips have a mutual interspacing so as to define a discharge path between them, characterized in that wherein said ionizable salt is selected from the group consisting of comprises NaI, TlI, CaI, and X-iodide, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of rare earth metals comprises Nd.

2. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of one or more elements selected from the group comprising Sc, Y, La, Ce, Pr, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Nd.

3. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of one or more elements selected from the group comprising Ce, Pr, Nd.

4. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein the molar percentage ratio X-iodide/(NaI+TlI+CaI₂+X-iodide) lies between 0 and 10%, in particular between 0.5 and 7%, more in particular between 1 and 6%.

5. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein the molar percentage ratio CaI₂/(NaI+TlI+CaI₂+X-iodide) lies between 10 and 95%.

6. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to

claim 1, wherein the amount of NaI, TlI, CaI₂ and X-iodide lies between 0.001 and 0.5 g/cm³, ~~in particular between 0.025 and 0.3 g/cm³~~.

7. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, emitting light during stable nominal operation having a color temperature T_c above 3500K, wherein the filling of the discharge space also comprises a halide selected from Mn and In.

8. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein the filling comprises Hg.

9. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein the lamp has wall load when in stable operation at rated power of at least 30 W/cm².

10. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein at least one electrode extends inside the discharge vessel over a length forming a tip to bottom distance (t-

b) between the discharge vessel wall and the electrode tip and which the tip to bottom distance (t-b) is at most 4.5 mm.

11. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein the discharge vessel has a rectangular cross section along the discharge path and wherein the tip to bottom distance (t-b) is at most 3.5 mm.

12. (Currently Amended) Lamp The metal halide lamp according to claim 1, wherein the filling of the discharge space is free of Cs.

13. (Previously Presented) The metal halide lamp of claim 1 to be used in a vehicle headlamp.

14. (Currently Amended) Method A method for manufacturing a vehicle headlamp ~~said headlamp~~, said method comprising the steps acts of:

providing a the vehicle headlamp with a metal halide lamp

comprising a discharge vessel;

surrounding said discharge vessel with an outer envelope with clearance and having a ceramic wall which encloses a discharge space;

filling said discharge space with a filling consisting of comprising an inert gas, such as gas including xenon (Xe), and an ionizable salt, salt; and

arranging in said discharge space two electrodes whose tips have a mutual interspacing so as to define a discharge path between them, and them;

wherein said ionizable salt is selected from the group consisting of comprises NaI, TlI, CaI₂, and X-iodide, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of rare earth metals comprises Nd.